

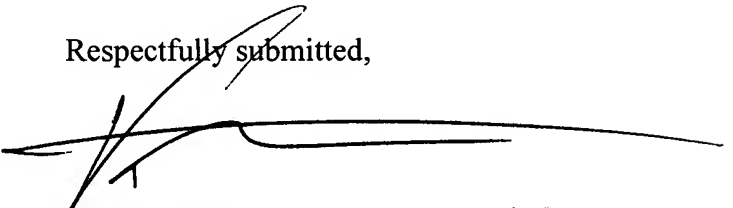
REMARKS:

Claim 18 has been amended by this paper.

Claims 3-5, 7 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 2 for allegedly failing to particularly point out and distinctly claiming the subject matter regarded as the invention. In an effort to simplify the issues on appeal, Applicant respectfully requests entry of the amendment to claim 18 to overcome the § 112 rejections. In particular, claim 18 has been amended to remove the "placing a volume of ambient air" limitation and specify that, after the crabmeat has been placed into the flexible pouch, the volume of ambient air in the flexible pouch is controlled to obtain an ambient air to crabmeat ratio in the flexible pouch of about 13-20 percent by volume.

Prompt and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Victor J. Wasylyna
Reg. No. 52,345

THOMPSON HINE LLP
Post Office Box 8801
Dayton, Ohio 45401-8801
Phone: (937) 443-6812
E-mail: IPGroup@ThompsonHine.com

498384.1